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**HOOSIER SAFETY LICENSE PLATES HELP FUND
IMPORTANT PUBLIC SAFETY INITIATIVES**

Indianapolis – The Indiana Homeland Security Foundation has awarded nearly \$474,000 in grants to public safety organizations around the state to help fund important public safety initiatives. The money for these grants was largely generated through the sale of Hoosier Safety license plates.

“This money will help the recipient organizations purchase equipment or implement programs that will result in an even higher level of public safety for the citizens they serve,” said Indiana Department of Homeland Security Executive Director J. Eric Dietz. “In turn, this will help our agency achieve the broader goal of doing all we can to safeguard all Hoosiers.”

More than \$300,000 will go to fire departments around the state, which will use the funds for a variety of purposes such as the purchase of important equipment like defibrillators and computers. Others will use the funds to help cover costs associated with training and education.

In addition, the Foundation also approved a proposal to set aside \$40,000 for a new program that will allow the Indiana Department of Homeland Security to provide \$2,000 scholarships to students interested in pursuing careers in some form of public safety. This program will be developed during the coming months.

More information about the Hoosier Safety license plate can be found by going to the Indiana Department of Homeland Security Web site at <http://www.in.gov/dhs> and clicking on the license plate at the bottom of the home page.

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